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Application No.: 10/599,735

Docket No.: 4749-012

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Canceled)
- 2. (Original) The connector according to claim 8, wherein said lock portion is formed integrally with the connector body.
- 3. (Original) The connector according to claim 8, wherein a front end of <u>each of</u> said lock portions is formed so that it is upwardly inclined toward the rear of the connector body.
- 4.-7. (Cancelled)
- 8. (New) A connector for establishing connections to an object including an opening on both sides thereof, the connector comprising:

a connector body into which one end of the object to be connected can be inserted at a predetermined position.

a plurality of terminals for contacting the object to be connected while the object is inserted into the connector body, each of the terminals including an upper portion and a lower portion, the upper portion and the lower portion having opposed surfaces

Docket No.: 4749-012

forming a mouth into which the object can be inserted, and

a pressing member for insertion into the mouth and for forcing the object toward the rear of the mouth while the object and the pressing member are located in the mouth,

the body having separate non-elastic lock portions, one on each side of the terminals so the terminals are between the lock portions,

the lock portions being arranged so that when the object is fully inserted into the mouth, the openings in the object are engaged and locked by the lock portions to prevent movement of the object in a direction opposite to the insertion direction of the object into the mouth,

the lock portion extending above the opposed surface of the lower portion.

9. (New) A connector for connecting contacts at an end of an object in the form of a flexible printed circuit board or a flexible flat cable to circuit board contacts, the object having openings on opposite longitudinal sides thereof, the contacts of the object being between the longitudinal sides, the connector comprising:

an electric insulating body carrying plural electrically conducting terminals, each of the plural terminals including first and second structures for respectively electrically connecting one of the contacts of the object to one of the circuit board contacts, the first structure including a fixed portion and a flexible portion, the fixed and flexible portions having opposed surfaces forming a mouth for receiving the end of the object;

the electric insulating body including non-elastic first and second lock portions for

Docket No.: 4749-012

respectively and selectively engaging the openings on the object while the end of the object is in the mouth;

a pressing member for selectively pushing the object into the mouth;

the pressing member, lock portions and the fixed and flexible portions being arranged so that (a) while the pressing member is pushing the object into the mouth none of the contacts of the object contact any portions of the terminals, and (b) upon completion of the pushing by the pressing member of the object into the mouth that causes the lock portions to engage the openings and hold the object in place and while the pressing member is fully inserted in the mouth, the contacts at the end of the object engage and are electrically connected to the terminals.

- 10. (New) The connector of claim 9 wherein the lock portions are above an upper surface of the flexible portion while the connector is oriented so the flexible and fixed portions extend horizontally and the flexible portion is below the fixed portion.
- 11. (New) The connector of claim 10 wherein (a) the pressing member includes a pressing piece for engaging a top surface of the object while the connector is oriented so the flexible and fixed portions extend horizontally and the flexible portion is below the fixed portion and while the pressing member pushes the object into the mouth, (b) the mouth is wide enough between the opposed surfaces of the fixed and flexible portions so that the pressing piece and the object can fit between the opposed surfaces without the object contacting the opposed surfaces while the pressing member is pushing the

Application No.: 10/599,735

Docket No.: 4749-012

object, and (c) the fixed and flexible portions and the pressing piece are arraigned so that when the pressing piece is fully inserted into the mouth the pressing piece engages the opposed surface of the fixed portion and a surface of the object engages and electrically contacts the opposed surface of the flexible portion.